

3. Requires self-regulatory organizations to comply with specific minimum requirements.

4. Specifies that States must notify the FTC when it brings action against a network game provider and allows the FTC to intervene in any action brought on by the state and file petitions for appeal.

I know feelings run strong on both sides of the gaming question. It is a policy area with which I have some issues. The fact exists, however, that gaming websites are available for everyone's entertainment. It is my hope that this legislation will prevent present and future abuses and reduce the incidence of fraud. America has a chance to become a leader in this emerging global industry, but we presently lag behind other countries which are dealing honestly and openly with the issue of on-line gaming.

I hope that Congress will seriously study this proposal and raise the level of debate on this issue. I look forward to working with my colleagues to improve this measure as it travels through the legislative process.

ROUTE 11 GREENWAY ACT OF 2003

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce my first legislative initiative of the 108th Congress—the "Route 11 Greenway Act of 2003." This bill authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to acquire land for a greenway along the proposed construction of Route 11 in eastern Connecticut.

Route 11 is a state road, initially intended to connect Connecticut's state capital region to its southeastern shoreline, making it a vital transportation link for the region. The road has been unfinished for over thirty years. As a result, traffic is forced onto Route 85—a local, 2-lane, 18th-century country road incapable of absorbing today's volume of traffic in a safe and efficient manner. And the problem is only getting worse.

The site of numerous accidents—and many of those fatal—the Federal Highway and Transit Administration gives the Route 11 corridor a failing service grade in many places and projects mostly failing grades in the coming years as traffic increases.

The bottom line is simple: the completion of Route 11 is critical to the safety of Connecticut motorists. And further inaction is unacceptable.

Unfortunately, the environmental review process has delayed completion of Route 11 for three decades. Connecticut travelers have paid the price for this delay—some of them, with their lives. This is unacceptable.

I am here today to reject the idea that environmental concerns and transportation safety are mutually exclusive ideals. In fact, I have long believed that environmental stewardship and transportation projects do not have to be inherently competitive pursuits. Instead, if we are willing, these interests can serve each other.

That is why I stand before my colleagues today to introduce legislation establishing a greenway along the proposed construction of Route 11, from Salem to Waterford, Connecticut.

My bill specifies that the land acquired for this greenway will be in addition to any land otherwise required to mitigate the environmental impacts of the roadway construction.

This region has seen rapid sprawl and unprecedented economic change, making it increasingly ripe for growing development. Knowing this, the Route 11 and greenway projects offer an environmental opportunity to preserve land that will otherwise be lost to development. This is a win-win. It is time to move forward.

The completion of Route 11 and an associated greenway have been unanimously endorsed by the chief elected officials of the twenty municipalities in the region acting through the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments.

I am honored to have the support of several of my Connecticut colleagues for this bill and proud to introduce this important legislation in the interests of environmental preservation and the safety of Connecticut motorists. I look forward to working with my colleagues in passing the Route 11 Greenway Act of 2003.

TRIBUTE TO BEN R. DRAKE, PRESIDENT OF THE TEMECULA VALLEY WINEGROWER'S ASSO- CIATION

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to Southern California are exceptional. Southern California has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give time and talent to making their communities a better place to live and work. Bob Drake is one of these individuals. On January 8, 2003, Ben will be stepping down as President of the Temecula Valley Winegrower's Association after a year of dedicated service.

The Temecula Valley Winegrowers Association represents 17 wineries and 49 grower members in their efforts to promote the making and growing of quality wine and winegrapes in the Temecula Valley appellation located in Riverside County. During his year as president, Ben has shown exemplary leadership skills as he has guided the association through a period of dynamic growth, vital to the associations' representation and promotion as one of the world's premiere wine and winegrape producing regions.

Ben has represented the association on critical community and political matters, such as land use, beautification efforts, state shipping restrictions and continuing issues dealing with Pierce's Disease and the glass-winger sharpshooter. He has worked diligently to keep open lines of communication with our membership, regional vintner and grower groups and elected officials.

Ben has placed much of his energy and focus on enhancing the recognition of the region as one of quality through educating association members through monthly enology and viticulture seminars. He has made himself available for countless media interviews and community outreach programs. Because of his personal and intensive involvement with asso-

ciation fundraising activities, he is leaving the association in a position of strength and financial stability.

Ben's diligent work as the Temecula Valley Winegrower's Association has contributed immeasurably to the betterment of Riverside County. His involvement in the community makes me proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that all of the residents of Riverside County are grateful for his service and salute him as his term comes to an end. I look forward to working with him in the future for the good of our community.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISH- MENTS OF RICK WINDBIGLER

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rick Windbigler the 2002 President of the Fallbrook, California Chamber of Commerce. Rick Windbigler is an exceptional community leader, business leader and model citizen of Fallbrook.

Mr. Windbigler has provided leadership by working on programs of importance to Fallbrook and San Diego County with local, county, state and federal officials. His work on the Gavilan Fire Victims Fund, Keep Fallbrook Clean and Green, Valley Center Mexican fruit-fly emergency and Christmas programs with the Marine Corps are all examples his outstanding leadership skills.

In addition to his leadership he has been a model of personal involvement. Rick has assisted in such community projects as the redecoration of the chamber's office, placing flags on Main Street, Avocado Festival logistics, volunteering during Holiday celebrations and attending hundreds of events to represent the Fallbrook Chamber and its members.

Rick has demonstrated his community leadership in many successful chamber programs which has resulted in an increase in chamber membership. Under Rick's leadership the Fallbrook Chamber experienced a year of record breaking fundraising with successful events such as the Honorary Mayor Race and Golf Tournament, record attendance at the Avocado Festival, SunDowners, Friendly Village Forums and Christmas Parade.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally thank Mr. Windbigler for his service to the people of Fallbrook and wish him good fortune in the future.

RESTORATION OF FAIRNESS IN IMMIGRATION ACT OF 2003

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced today the "Restoration of Fairness in Immigration Act of 2003."

Since this nation's founding, more than 55 million immigrants from every continent have settled in the United States. Immigrants work hard to make ends meet and pay taxes every